

INFORMATION

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COUNTRY Lebanon/Syria

SUBJECT Anti-UNESCO Propaganda

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SUPPLEMENT
REPORT NO.

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1. Soviet officials and Communists in Damascus are instigating an anti-UNESCO propaganda movement in Syria and Lebanon which is receiving some support from certain religious leaders, such as Kamil Qassab, Abu-Khayr Midani and Ahmad Digr. The Society of Friends of the Soviet Union encourage these men to spread anti-UNESCO propaganda by saying that some of the UNESCO delegates are Jews, and that UNESCO discussions are not in keeping with the tenets of the Koran.
2. Meetings in Damascus of this anti-UNESCO movement are called by Dr. Kamal Ayyad, prominent member of the Society of Friends of the Soviet Union, and are attended by Muhammad Nabi, Dib-al-Shaykh, Ahmad Shaykh-al-Awd, Mikhail Khuri, Ziya' and Sadiq Nuwayri.
3. This group has sent a number of hired agitators to Lebanon to encourage their Lebanese friends to spread propaganda against UNESCO. [REDACTED] these men hope to incite the Lebanese to acts which will make an unfavorable impression on UNESCO delegates and discredit Lebanon. (Comment. Previous reports on this subject stated that certain Moslem leaders of Damascus were spreading propaganda opposing UNESCO in Lebanon, but gave no indication that the Soviets or Communists were the instigators of such activity. Dr. Kamal Ayyad is a member of the Syrian delegation to the UNESCO conference.)

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